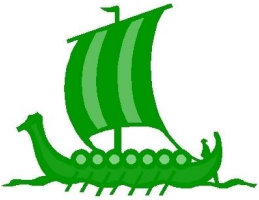


Wittersham Church of England Primary School

'On a voyage of discovery: learning and growing together in the light of God'



**Welcome to the
Wittersham Weekly!
Friday 19th September 2025**



Wittersham Weekly – Term 1, Week 4

It has been another superb – albeit very busy – week here at Wittersham School!

Our highlight on Monday was the arrival of our very own Wittersham fish. The aquarium has taken pride of place in the school and has already had many excited visitors throughout the week. We also welcomed in the local resident who kindly donated the tank – they were thrilled to see the joy it has already brought to so many children.



We also had two very important visits this week: representatives from ten local schools and from the Diocese. They were all so complimentary and impressed by the school – how wonderful it looks, the quality of teaching, and the responses of our children. It was such a proud moment to hear such positive feedback.

On Wednesday, 2 skips were collected, complete with 26 yards of items, including the large fibreglass tubes from the back of the field. A huge thank you to Forest School Helen and her husband Stefan, who kindly came in over the weekend to break down the tubes and place them in the skip – the field now looks fresh and clear thanks to their efforts.

Saturday and Sunday were very busy in Wittersham, as the WSA worked hard to empty the EYFS sandpit before ordering two tonnes of new sand, which are now prepped and ready to be poured in. We believe around 29 wheelbarrows of sand were shifted! We are so grateful for all their time and effort in transforming the area for our youngest children.

Wraparound care continues to grow, with 11 children attending on Wednesday afternoon. On Thursday, we made banana pancakes together – which were a huge hit! Don't forget to book any sessions you need via ScoPay.

Finally, good luck to all families taking part in the village scarecrow contest this weekend. Wittersham's entry, created by Forest School, is proudly displayed on the wall outside the school for everyone to enjoy.

Wishing you all a wonderful weekend. Take care, Mrs Coulson

Compassion

Courage

Cooperation

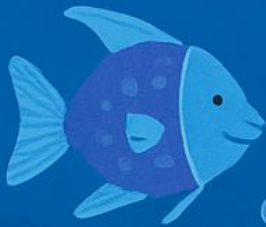
Welcome to the Wittersham School Fish Tank!



Opened on September 15th, 2025

Our brand-new fish tank was kindly donated by a local resident.

The School Council helped decide that our new pets would be a tank full of fish – a special project for the whole school to share.



45 fish swimming happily in their new home.

- Each class chose 2 fish to represent them.
- School staff, including the kitchen and office teams, also chose their own fish friends!



Compassion

Caring for our fish, feeding them, and keeping their home clean



Courage

Learning new responsibilities and being brave enough to try something new



Cooperation

Working together as one school family to look after our new friends

Just like our fish, we are all unique, but together we make something wonderful.’ ’

“At Wittersham, we swim together with courage, compassion, and cooperation.”



Dear God,

Thank you for the joy of welcoming our new fish into school this week. May they remind us of the beauty of your creation and the importance of caring for all living things.

As we head into the weekend, we pray for adventures filled with fun, rest, and togetherness. Keep our children, families, and community safe in all that they do.

Amen.

Attendance and Punctuality

At Wittersham Church of England Primary School, we are committed to supporting every child's learning and development. Regular attendance and punctuality are essential in helping children make the most of their time in school and achieve their full potential.

The school gate closes at 8:45am. Any child arriving after this time will need to sign in at the office, and this will be recorded as late. Being consistently late not only disrupts learning for the child but also for the class as a whole. Over the coming weeks, we will be arranging meetings with families of pupils who are persistently late to explore ways we can work together to improve punctuality.

Remember, our Breakfast Club runs from 8:00am and is a great way to ensure children arrive on time and are settled, ready for the day ahead. We do understand that challenges can sometimes make regular attendance or punctuality difficult. If you are experiencing difficulties, please don't hesitate to reach out. Our School Family Liaison Officer, Mrs Sterriker-Rhodes, is available to offer support and guidance to help overcome any barriers. Together, we can make sure every child has the very best start to each school day.

Here are the latest attendance figures for the school:

| Windmills | Smugglers | Vikings | Oxney | Rother |
|-----------|-----------|---------|--------|--------|
| 98.07% | 98.21% | 94.83% | 94.11% | 95.64% |

Whole school: **96.4% - Woohoo!**

Whole School Target: **96%**

Compassion

Courage

Cooperation



HARVEST CELEBRATION ART



Create a piece of Harvest art for our celebration!



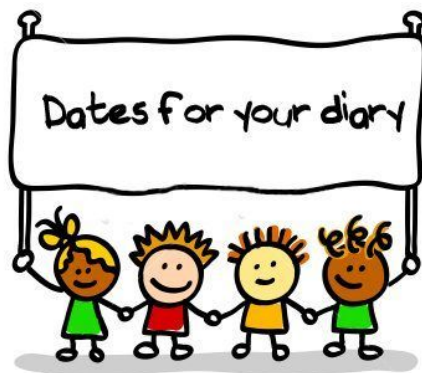
Please bring your art into school by Monday 29th September

House points will be awarded!



This is optional – be as creative as you like!





Upcoming Dates for Your Diary

- **Monday 29th September** - Harvest Festival @9am all welcome to attend the Church service.
- **Wednesday 1st October** - Phonics Workshop for KS1 Parents @14:45
- **Thursday 2nd October** - Phonics Workshop for KS1 Parents @08:45
- **Thursday 16th October** - Last day of Term 1
- **Friday 17th October** - INSET Day (School Closed for Pupils)
- **Monday 20th - Friday 31st October** - Half Term.
- **Monday 3rd November** - Start of Term 2
- **Wednesday 5th November** - Whole School Parents Evening PM

 *Please mark these dates in your calendars as we look forward to a busy and exciting term ahead!*



Free school meals

Your child might be able to get free school meals if you get any of the following:

- Universal Credit - your household income must be less than £7,400 a year (after tax and not including any benefits you get)
- Income Support
- Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- The guaranteed element of Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit (provided you're not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross income of no more than £16,190)
- Working Tax Credit run-on paid for 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit.



Some schools in Kent manage their own Free Schools Meals application process. For more information, go to:

kent.gov.uk/freeschoolmeals



Local events and news!



THE MUSIC WELL IN RYE,
IS PROUD TO ANNOUNCE:



A fabulous CHILDREN/STUDENT'S SINGING CLUB

Taking place at the HUB on RYE HILL
on MONDAYS, 4-5pm, term-time.



OPEN to ALL Children and Students in Years R – Y11,
attending any local schools in the Rye area and beyond, or
being home schooled.

*This is an exciting musical opportunity for children and young people, and is
fun, friendly and fully inclusive. Everyone is welcome.*



Singing Teacher is Mrs. Marian Ham, a local music and piano teacher,
and a semi-retired Primary School Head Teacher.

For a joining form and more information, please email
Marian on dmham128@btinternet.com

This opportunity is supported financially The Music Well CIC as well as
welcoming donations wherever possible.

Enjoy viewing the Music Well's website: www.themusicwell.org.uk

Have your say on the draft Ashford Local Plan 2042

Ashford Borough Council is now consulting on the draft Local Plan (known as Regulation 18) which sets the council's proposed approach and direction of travel for a number of planning matters for development up to 2042.

Consultation runs until 5pm on Monday 13th October 2025.

View our draft Local Plan in person

We are holding a series of events where you can come and view the draft Local Plan. Simply 'drop in' to any of the following events. If you can't attend 'in person' we are also holding one virtual event:



| Venue | Date | Time |
|---|----------------------------|------------|
| Ashford Cinema, Elwick Road, Ashford, TN23 1AE | Thursday 11 September 2025 | 3 - 7pm |
| Tenterden Leisure Centre, Recreation Ground Road, Tenterden, TN30 6RA | Tuesday 16 September 2025 | 3 - 7pm |
| Kingsnorth Village Hall, Church Hill, Kingsnorth, TN23 3EF | Friday 19 September 2025 | 4 - 8pm |
| Sandyacres Sports & Social Club, Sandyhurst Lane, Ashford, TN25 4NT | Tuesday 23 September 2025 | 3 - 7pm |
| Mersham Village Hall, Church Road, Mersham, TN25 6NU | Thursday 25 September 2025 | 3 - 7pm |
| Wye Village Hall, Bridge Street, Wye, TN25 5EA | Monday 29 September 2025 | 3 - 7pm |
| Virtual Event via Microsoft Teams | Thursday 2 October 2025 | 5 - 6.15pm |

To find out more visit: www.ashford.gov.uk/emerging-local-plan



RYE YOUTH RUGBY

TAG & TOUCH RUGBY TRAINING SESSIONS

EVERY SATURDAY FROM
20TH SEPTEMBER @12.30PM

We Welcome Boys & Girls
Ages 8 to 13 years
to come join us!

Everyone's Included!!! Non-Contact form of
the game, have fun & make new Friends
while learning all the basic skills of Rugby

Why should your child play Rugby?

- Confidence & Self-Esteem
- Teamwork & Social Skills
- Hand-Eye Coordination
- Fun & Enjoyment
- Physical Fitness



want to know more?
CONTACT THEO 07888822667
youth.ryerugby@gmail.com